



Beacon Tree Elementary – Jason Ellis, Principal

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2015-2016 education progress for Beacon Tree Elementary. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. The school's report contains information about student assessment, accountability and teacher quality. If you have any questions about the AER, please contact the building principal for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site: <https://goo.gl/knk7jg> or you may review a copy in the principal's office at your child's school.

### **School Improvement Plan**

#### **Beacon Tree Elementary Objectives:**

- 85% of All Students will demonstrate a proficiency across all strands in Mathematics by 06/03/2024 as measured by the Spring State Assessment.
- 85% of All Students will demonstrate a proficiency across all strands in Reading by 06/03/2024 as measured by the Spring State Assessment.
- 85% of All Students will demonstrate a proficiency across all domains as aggregate scores for writing in English Language Arts by 06/03/2024 as measured by the Spring State Assessments.
- 85% of All Students will demonstrate a proficiency across all strands in social studies and in Science by 06/01/2024 as measured by the Spring state assessment.

Beacon Tree Elementary had a successful 2015-2016 school year. Students showed measurable growth in meeting the rigorous goals that staff set for student achievement, based on the School Improvement Plan and our school's objectives.

Beacon Tree Elementary data teams utilized a variety of assessments to analyze data including M-Step, Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) and classroom assessments. Teachers meet on a regular basis with the principal to analyze data and collaborate in planning classroom lessons and intervention strategies.



Beacon Tree Elementary – Jason Ellis, Principal

The Beacon Tree Elementary staff continues to analyze data and review student achievement through an ongoing data analysis process. Through this analysis, the Beacon Tree Elementary staff have identified specific gaps in achievement within our bottom 30% of students. Within this student population, we recognize the need to increase the achievement of our Special Education (SE) students. The Beacon Tree Elementary Special Education staff is working with our general education staff, and individual families, to create an IEP that will help students become successful in various identified areas of need. The utilization of classroom interventions, in conjunction with small group instructional opportunities, will provide our special education students great opportunities to reach, or exceed, individual educational goals.

### **Student Enrollment**

Students attend Beacon Tree Elementary based on the attendance area serviced within our school boundary. A number of Utica Community Schools' students in other attendance areas enroll in our school based on the district's open enrollment process and nonresident students may attend through the Schools of Choice program.

### **Points of Pride**

Our school continues to celebrate success in a number of key ways. Below are some of our Points of Pride:

- Beacon Tree Elementary is a state of the art educational facility with wireless advanced technology available to students anywhere in the building to develop and promote 21<sup>st</sup> century skills.
- Every member – 100% - of our teaching staff is highly qualified under the federal No Child Left Behind guidelines and committed to pursuing staff development and continuing education.
- Beacon Tree Elementary offers a supportive parent group, Beacon Tree Volunteers (BTV), which strives to support both teachers and students by raising funds to purchase many pieces of technology and manipulatives that help support curriculum.
- Beacon Tree Elementary students can take part in curriculum enrichment opportunities such as Science Olympiad, Mathematics Olympiad, Social
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Beacon Tree Elementary – Jason Ellis, Principal

- Studies Olympiad, Destination Imagination, Honors Choir, and our Academically Talented and Gifted Program.
- Beacon Tree Elementary students are involved in community outreach programs that help support charitable organizations.

### **Specialty Programs**

All students have the opportunity to have equitable access to Specialty Programs through an open and accessible process. Please see Policy 6275 posted on [www.uticak12.org](http://www.uticak12.org) under the Board of Education tab for further information.

#### Utica Academy for International Studies

Utica Academy for International Studies is a four-year, full-immersion specialty program designed for all students to have the opportunity to earn the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma in addition to their state of Michigan high school diploma. Classes in 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade prepare students for the rigors of the IB classes that begin at the start of junior year, where all students are required to register for seven IB courses, complete the 4,000-word Extended Essay on a topic of their choice, and complete at least 150 hours of creativity, activity and service hours. This rigorous and internationally minded curriculum encourages students to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who value intercultural understanding and respect for others.

#### Utica Center for Math, Science and Technology

The Utica Center for Mathematics, Science and Technology is designed to bring advanced students with special talents and interests together with leading-edge technology. The Center utilizes an advanced curriculum for grades 9-12 which serves to inspire, challenge, and prepare students to pursue careers in mathematics and science. The Center follows the Utica tradition of providing the finest instruction and innovation.

#### Utica Center for Science and Industry

The Center for Science and Industry is a half day shared time program that provides 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students with a variety of cutting-edge Career and Technology Education taught in an integrated manner. Along with core



Beacon Tree Elementary – Jason Ellis, Principal

math and English classes, students select from electives, which will support one of three career strands: 1) Engineering and Technology, 2) Mechatronics, or 3) Multi-Media Technology. The CSI is project based and provides students with a wide array of experiences with professionals from business and industrial partners.

### **Core Curriculum**

All the schools in Utica Community Schools offer students a comprehensive and rigorous academic program that meets and exceeds all state and federal standards. Our schools follow the Michigan Academic Standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics and are transitioning to the Michigan Science Standards. All other content areas continue to follow the Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCE). These standards can be accessed at [www.michigan.gov/mde](http://www.michigan.gov/mde) under the Career and College Ready tab – Graduation Requirements and Standards – Standards. The district’s vision and mission statements can be accessed at [www.uticak12.org](http://www.uticak12.org).

### **District Assessments**

Utica Community Schools not only looks at state assessments but we also monitor the progress of our students through the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA). NWEA is used to monitor and assess students in English Language Arts and mathematics using computer adaptive testing. NWEA aggregate student achievement can be requested from the school.

### **Parent/Teacher Conference Attendance**

Number: 1003

Percentage: 99%



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### **State of Michigan Rankings**

The State of Michigan has adopted an accountability system that places public schools in three categories based on state standardized assessment data:

- A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap between the highest performing students and the combined results of 30 percent of those students needing additional assistance.
- A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state.
- A Reward school is one that has achieved one or more of the following distinctions: top 5% of schools on the Top-to-Bottom School Rankings, top 5% of schools
- making the greatest gains in achievement (improvement metric), or “Beating the Odds” by outperforming the school’s predicted ranking and/or similar schools.

Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases no label is given. Our school was identified as: Has Not Been Given One Of These Lab

We are pleased to provide this annual education report to our school community. The information that is contained in this report demonstrates our continued efforts to ensure every student achieves in our school. This report, however, only tells a small part of our success story. Every day our staff is continually finding new ways to enhance teaching and learning and engage our students in their education. We invite you to continue to be active participants in your child’s education by volunteering in the classrooms, serving on our parent groups, and working closely at home with your students on their assignments.

Beacon Tree Elementary is fortunate to be serviced by a community that cares so deeply about education. Thank you again for your continued support of our students and the Utica Community Schools.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jason Ellis  
Principal